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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

16 APRIL 2019

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) San Jose – Man Sentenced to Four Years in Prison for Role in Meth Distribution Scheme

(U) A US District Court judge sentenced a 36-year-old San Jose man to nearly four years in prison for his role in a South Bay drug distribution scheme. The sentence follows Sophann Pin's May 2018 guilty plea to one count of possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine. He was initially charged with two counts of conspiracy and three counts of possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine. In addition to a prison term of 45-months, Pin was sentenced to three years of supervised release.

SOURCE: 15 April 2019, [Mercury News](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – Authorities Seize \$1 Million Dollars of Methamphetamine Hidden In Car

(U) Hidalgo – US Customs and Border Protection agents at the Hidalgo International Bridge seized 40 packages of alleged methamphetamine with a street value of \$1 million. Agents detained a 25-year old man from Reynosa, Tamaulipas Mexico while he was attempting to cross the border during an inspection of his Ford 500 sedan. A canine team discovered the 51-pounds of meth hidden in compartments inside the car. Authorities arrested the driver and seized the vehicle.

SOURCE: 15 April 2019, [FOX San Antonio](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Louisiana – Hate Crime Charges against Suspect in Church Burnings

(U) St. Landry Parish – Three additional charges were filed against the son of a sheriff's deputy accused of burning down three predominately black churches in southern Louisiana in the past few weeks. A Louisiana judge added three federal hate crime charges against Holden Matthews, 21, and denied him bond on Monday. Matthews, a white resident of St. Landry Parish, the county where the fires occurred, was previously charged with three counts of arson on religious buildings. Matthews entered a plea of not guilty on Monday and remains in custody at the St. Landry Parish jail.

SOURCE: 16 April 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) New York – US Measles Cases Surge Nearly 20 Percent in Early April

(U) New York City – The number of confirmed cases of measles in the United States this year jumped by nearly 20 percent, in the country's second-worst outbreak in nearly two decades. As of 11 April, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recorded 555 cases of the disease since the beginning of the year, up from 465 cases confirmed by 4 April. The cases were found in 20 states spanning the country. The measles virus is highly contagious and can lead to complications and death, particularly in children. The CDC report did not say whether there have been any fatalities. The US outbreak is part of a worldwide rise. The World Health Organization (WHO) reported on Monday that global cases had risen nearly four-fold in the first quarter of 2019 to 112,163 compared with the same period last year.

SOURCE: 15 April 2019, [Reuters](#)

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UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Bahrain – Authorities Jail 139 People on Terrorism Charges, Revokes Citizenship**

(U) Manama – A court in Western-allied Bahrain sentenced 139 people to jail on terrorism charges on Tuesday and revoked the citizenship for all but one of them, the public prosecutor said. Bahrain, which hosts the US Navy's Fifth Fleet, has prosecuted hundreds of protesters in mass trials and banned main opposition groups. The High Criminal Court handed out life jail terms to 69 of the defendants, sentenced for crimes including joining a "terrorist" group, bombings, attempted murder and receiving arms and explosives training. It said the defendants had formed an Iran-linked cell it referred to as the "Bahraini Hizballah" with the purpose of carrying out attacks in the country.

SOURCE: 16 April 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Canada – Four People Killed, Man in Custody in Shootings

(U) Penticton – Four people were shot dead in Penticton, British Columbia, on Monday and a suspect is in custody, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) said in a statement. Police have determined four people are deceased at three locations within a 3 mile radius, according to the statement. "A man matching the suspect's description turned himself into the Penticton RCMP detachment. The man remains in custody while the investigation progresses. Preliminary indications are this was a targeted incident," the statement said. A motive for the shootings was still unknown.

SOURCE: 15 April 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Colombia – Authorities Arrest Top Sinaloa Cartel Operator in Colombia

(U) Bogotá – Colombian Anti-narcotics Police arrested 'El Rafa' on 13 April, in Bogotá, Colombia. He is one of the most wanted Mexican drug traffickers by Interpol and American intelligence agencies. "El Rafa" is considered a main partner in Colombia to Ismael 'Mayo' Zambada García, leader of the Sinaloa Cartel.

SOURCE: 15 April 2019, [La Verdad \(Google Translated\)](#)

(U) Ecuador – Ecuador Reports Hacking Attempts Doubled after it Ended Assange Asylum

(U) Quito – Hacking attempts on Ecuadorean government institutions have doubled since the country revoked WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange's asylum at its London embassy last week, an official said on Monday. Telecommunications Vice Minister Patricio Real told reporters the websites for the country's presidency, central bank and foreign ministry, among others, has received 40 million hacking attempts per day since Assange was dragged out of the embassy on 11 April by London police. Real did not attribute the hacking attempts to any group in particular, and said it would be difficult to identify the hackers. But he said the hacking group Anonymous, which has taken credit for cyberattacks on government institutions in the United States and Britain, had made a threat.

SOURCE: 15 April 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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